



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL**

May 2018  
Log No. \_\_\_\_\_

**1. State Building Code to be Amended:**

- ☐ International Building Code
- ☐ ICC ANSI A117.1 Accessibility Code
- ☐ International Existing Building Code
- ☐ International Residential Code
- ☒ International Fire Code
- ☐ Uniform Plumbing Code

- ☐ International Mechanical Code
- ☐ International Fuel Gas Code
- ☐ NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code
- ☐ NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
- ☐ Wildland Urban Interface Code

For the Washington State Energy Code, please see specialized [energy code forms](#)

**Section(s): Chapter 9, 901.4.2, 901.8.2, 903.2.1.6, 903.2.1.8, 903.2.3, 903.2.6, 903.2.6.1, 903.2.8, 903.2.11.7, 903.3.5.3, 904.1.1, 904.1.1.1, 904.1.1.2, 904.1.1.3, 904.13, 907.2.3, 907.2.3.1, 907.2.6.1, 907.2.6.4, 907.5.2.1.2, 907.8.4.1, 907.11, 907.11.1, 907.11.2, 909.6.3, 909.21.12, 909.21.13, 913.2.1, 915.1, 915.1.1, 915.1.2, 915.1.3, 915.1.4, 915.1.5, 915.1.6, 915.2, 915.2.1, 915.2.2, 915.2.3, Section 918, 918.1, 918.2, 918.3, 918.4, 918.4.1, 918.4.2, 918.4.2.1, 918.4.2.2, 918.4.2.3, 918.5, and 918.6.**

**Title: Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems, Nonrequired fire protection and life safety systems, Removal of existing occupant-use hose lines, Assembly occupancies on roofs, Nightclub, Group E, Group I, Group I-4, Group R, Basements, Relocatable buildings within buildings, Underground portions of fire protection system water supply piping, Certification of service personnel for fire-extinguishing equipment, Preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems, Engineered fire suppression systems, Preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system, Commercial cooking systems, Group E, Sprinkler system or detection, Group I-1, Group I-4 occupancies, Maximum sound pressure, Testing/maintenance, NICET: National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies and ESA/NTS: Electronic Security Association/National Training School, Scope, Design Review, Pressurized stairways and elevator hoistways, Hoistway venting, Machine rooms, Protection of fire pump rooms, General, Where required, Fuel-burning appliances and fuel-burning fireplaces, Fuel-burning forced-air furnaces, Fuel-burning appliances outside of dwelling units, sleeping units and classrooms, Private garages, Exempt garages, Locations, Dwelling units, Sleeping units, Group E occupancies, Section 918 Alerting Systems, General, Power Source, Duration of operation, Combination system, System priority, Fire alarm system, Signal priority, Temporary deactivation, Supervisory signal, Audibility, and Visibility.**

**2. Proponent Name (Specific local government, organization or individual):**

**Proponent: Ken Brouillette, Seattle Fire Department**

**Title: Technical Code Program Manager**

**Date: 2/24/2021**

**3. Designated Contact Person:**

**Name: Ken Brouillette, Seattle Fire Department**

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**4. Proposed Code Amendment.** Reproduce the section to be amended by underlining all added language, striking through all deleted language. Insert new sections in the appropriate place in the code in order to continue the established numbering system of the code. If more than one section is proposed for amendment or more than one page is needed for reproducing the affected section of the code additional pages may be attached. (Examples on the SBCC [website](#))

**Code(s)** 2021 IFC                      **Section(s)** Chapter 9, 901.4.2,  
901.8.2,903.2.1.6,903.2.1.8,903.2.3,903.2.6,903.2.6.1,903.2.8,903.2.11.7,903.3.5.3,904.1.1,904.1  
.1.1,904.1.1.2,904.1.1.3,904.13,907.2.3,907.2.3.1,907.2.6.1,907.2.6.4,907.5.2.1.2,907.8.4.1,907.1  
1,907.11.1,907.11.2,909.6.3,909.21.12,909.21.13,913.2.1,915.1,915.1.1,915.1.2,915.1.3,915.1.4,  
915.1.5,915.1.6,915.2,915.2.1,915.2.2,915.2.3,Section 918,  
918.1,918.2,918.3,918.4,918.4.1,918.4.2,918.4.2.1,918.4.2.2,918.4.2.3,918.5, and 918.6.

Enforceable code language must be used; see an example [by clicking here](#).

Amend section to read as follows:

**901.4.2 Nonrequired fire protection and life safety systems.** *Fire protection and life safety systems* or portion thereof not required by this code or the *International Building Code* shall be allowed to be furnished for partial or complete protection provided that such installed systems meet the applicable requirements of this code and the *International Building Code*. Such systems or portion of system shall be provided with signage stating "NONREQUIRED SYSTEM." Signage shall be durable and permanent in nature, with contrasting color and background, and with lettering of not less than 1 inch in height. Location of such signage shall be *approved*.

**901.8.2 Removal of existing occupant-use hose lines.** The *fire code official* is authorized to permit the removal of existing occupant-use hose lines where ~~both~~ all of the following conditions exist:

1. Installation is not required by this code, the *International Building Code*, or a previously approved alternative method.
- ~~12.~~ The hose line would not be utilized by trained personnel or the fire department.
- ~~23.~~ The remaining outlets are compatible with local fire department fittings.

**903.2.1.6 Assembly occupancies on roofs.** Where an occupied roof has an assembly occupancy with an *occupant load* exceeding 100 for Group A-2 and 300 for other Group A occupancies, the building all floors between the occupied roof and the level of exit discharge shall be equipped with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

**Exception:** Open parking garages of Type I or Type II construction.

**903.2.1.8 Nightclub.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout Group A-2 nightclubs as defined in this code.

**903.2.3 Group E.** An *automatic sprinkler system* shall be provided for fire areas containing Group E occupancies where the fire area has an occupant load of 51 or more, calculated in accordance with Table 1004.5, as follows:

1. ~~Throughout all Group E fire areas greater than 12,000 square feet (1115 m<sup>2</sup>) in area.~~

~~2. The Group E fire area is located on a floor other than a level of exit discharge serving such occupancies.~~

~~**Exception:** In buildings where every classroom has not fewer than one exterior exit door at ground level, an automatic sprinkler system is not required in any area below the lowest level of exit discharge serving that area.~~

~~3. The Group E fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.~~

### **Exceptions:**

1. Portable school classrooms with an occupant load of 50 or less calculated in accordance with Table 1004.5, provided that the aggregate area of any cluster of portable classrooms does not exceed 6,000 square feet (557 m<sup>2</sup>); and clusters of portable school classrooms shall be separated as required by the building code; or
2. Portable school classrooms with an occupant load from 51 through 98, calculated in accordance with Table 1004.5, and provided with two means of direct independent exterior egress from each classroom in accordance with Chapter 10, and one exit from each class room shall be accessible, provided that the aggregate area of any cluster of portable classrooms does not exceed 6,000 square feet (557 m<sup>2</sup>); and clusters of portable school classrooms shall be separated as required by the building code; or
3. Fire areas containing day care and preschool facilities with a total occupant load of 100 or less located at the level of exit discharge where every room in which care is provided has not fewer than one exit discharge door.

**903.2.6 Group I.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings with a Group I fire area.

### **Exceptions:**

1. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 shall be permitted in Group I-1, Condition 1 facilities.
- ~~2. An automatic sprinkler system is not required where Group I-4 day care facilities are at the level of exit discharge and where every room where care is provided has not fewer than one exterior exit door~~ Where new construction or additions house less than sixteen persons receiving care, an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 shall be permitted for Group I-1, Condition 2, assisted living facilities licensed under chapter 388-78A WAC and residential treatment facilities licensed under chapter 246-337 WAC.
- ~~3. In buildings where Group I-4 day care is provided on levels other than the level of exit discharge, an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be installed on the entire floor where care is provided, all floors between the level of care and the level of exit discharge and all floors below the level of exit discharge other than areas classified as an open parking garage.~~

**903.2.6.1 Group I-4.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in fire areas containing Group I-4 occupancies where the fire area has an occupant load of 51 or more, calculated in accordance with Table 1004.5.

### **EXCEPTIONS:**

1. An automatic sprinkler system is not required where Group I-4 day care facilities with a total occupant load of 100 or less, and located at the level of exit discharge and where every room where care is provided has not fewer than one exterior exit door.
2. In buildings where Group I-4 day care is provided on levels other than the level of exit discharge, an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be installed on the entire floor where care is provided, all floors between the level of care and the level of exit discharge and all floors below the level of exit discharge other than areas classified as an open parking garage.

**903.2.8 Group R.** An *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R *fire area*.

**EXCEPTION:** Group R-1 if all of the following conditions apply:

1. The Group R fire area is no more than 500 square feet and is used for recreational use only.
2. The Group R fire area is on only one story.
3. The Group R fire area does not include a basement.
4. The Group R fire area is no closer than 30 feet from another structure.
5. Cooking is not allowed within the Group R fire area.
6. The Group R fire area has an occupant load of no more than 8.
7. A hand-held (portable) fire extinguisher is in every Group R fire area.

**903.2.11.1.3 Basements.** Where any portion of a *basement* is located more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) from openings required by Section 903.2.11.1, or where new walls, partitions or other obstructions are installed that increase the exit access travel distance to more than 75 feet, ~~restrict the application of water from hose streams,~~ the *basement* shall be equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system*.

**903.2.11.7 Relocatable buildings within buildings.** Relocatable buildings or structures located within a building with an approved fire sprinkler system shall be provided with fire sprinkler protection within the occupiable space of the building and the space underneath the relocatable building.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

1. Sprinkler protection is not required underneath the building when the space is separated from the adjacent space by construction resisting the passage of smoke and heat and combustible storage will not be located there.
2. If the building or structure does not have a roof or ceiling obstructing the overhead sprinklers.
3. Construction trailers and temporary offices used during new building construction prior to occupancy.
4. Movable shopping mall kiosks with a roof or canopy dimension of less than 4 feet on the smallest side.

**903.3.5.3 Underground portions of fire protection system water supply piping.** The portion of the installation or modification of an underground water main, public or private, dedicated to supplying a water-based fire protection system shall be in accordance with NFPA 24 and chapter 18.160 RCW. Piping and appurtenances downstream of the first control valve on the lateral or service line from the distribution main to one-foot above finished floor shall be approved by the *fire code official*. Such underground piping shall be installed by a fire sprinkler system contractor licensed in accordance with chapter 18.160 RCW and holding either a Level U or a Level 3 license. For underground piping supplying systems installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2, a Level 2, 3, or U licensed contractor is acceptable.

**EXCEPTION:** Portions of underground piping supplying automatic sprinkler systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13D.

**904.1.1 Certification of service personnel for fire-extinguishing equipment.** Service personnel performing system design, installation or conducting system maintenance or testing ~~providing or conducting maintenance~~ on automatic fire-extinguishing systems, other than *automatic sprinkler systems*, shall possess the appropriate ICC/NAFED certification a valid certificate issued by an approved governmental agency, or other approved organization for the type of system and work performed.

**904.1.1.1 Preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems.** A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered kitchen fire-extinguishing systems is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

**904.1.1.2 Engineered fire suppression systems.** A current ICC/NAFED certification for engineered fire suppression systems is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

**904.1.1.3 Preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system.** A current ICC/NAFED certification for preengineered industrial fire-extinguishing system is required when performing design, installation, inspection/testing or maintenance on kitchen suppression systems.

**904.13 Commercial cooking systems.** The automatic fire-extinguishing system for commercial cooking systems shall be of a type recognized for protection of commercial cooking equipment and exhaust systems of the type and arrangement protected. Preengineered automatic dry- and wet-chemical extinguishing systems shall be tested in accordance with UL 300 and *listed* and *labeled* for the intended application. Other types of automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall be *listed* and *labeled* for specific use as protection for commercial cooking operations. The system shall be installed in accordance with this code, NFPA 96, its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions. Signage shall be provided on the exhaust hood or system cabinet, indicating the type and arrangement of cooking appliances protected by the automatic fire-extinguishing system. Signage shall indicate appliances from left to right, be durable, and the size, color, and lettering shall be approved. Automatic fire-extinguishing systems of the following types shall be installed in accordance with the referenced standard indicated, as follows:

1. Carbon dioxide extinguishing systems, NFPA 12.
2. *Automatic sprinkler systems*, NFPA 13.
3. Automatic water mist systems, NFPA 750.
4. Foam-water sprinkler system or foam-water spray systems, NFPA 16.
5. Dry-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17.
6. Wet-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17A.

**Exception:** Factory-built commercial cooking recirculating systems that are tested in accordance with UL 710B and *listed, labeled* and installed in accordance with Section 304.1 of the *International Mechanical Code*.

**907.2.3 Group E.** ~~A manual fire alarm system that initiates the occupant notification signal utilizing an emergency voice/alarm communication system meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 shall be installed in Group E occupancies. Where automatic sprinkler systems or smoke detectors are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to the building fire alarm system~~ Group E occupancies shall be provided with a manual fire alarm system that initiates the occupant notification signal utilizing one of the following:

1. An emergency voice/alarm communication system meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6; or
2. A system developed as part of a safe school plan adopted in accordance with RCW 28A.320.125 or

developed as part of an emergency response system consistent with the provisions of RCW 28A.320.126.

The system must achieve all of the following performance standards:

2.1 The ability to broadcast voice messages or customized announcements;

2.2 Includes a feature for multiple sounds, including sounds to initiate a lock down;

2.3 The ability to deliver messages to the interior of a building, areas outside of a building as designated pursuant to the safe school plan, and to personnel;

2.4 The ability for two-way communications;

2.5 The ability for individual room calling;

2.6 The ability for a manual override;

2.7 Installation in accordance with NFPA 72;

2.8 Provide 15 minutes of battery backup for alarm and 24 hours of battery backup for standby; and

2.9 Includes a program for annual inspection and maintenance in accordance with NFPA 72.

**Exceptions:**

1. A manual fire alarm system shall not be required in Group E occupancies with an *occupant load* of 50 or less.
2. Emergency voice/alarm communication systems meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 shall not be required in Group E occupancies with occupant loads of 100 or less, provided that activation of the manual fire alarm system initiates an *approved* occupant notification signal in accordance with Section 907.5.
3. Manual fire alarm boxes shall not be required in Group E occupancies where all of the following apply:
  - 3.1. Interior *corridors* are protected by smoke detectors.
  - 3.2. Auditoriums, cafeterias, gymnasiums and similar areas are protected by *heat detectors* or other *approved* detection devices.
  - 3.3. Shops and laboratories involving dusts or vapors are protected by *heat detectors* or other *approved* detection devices.
  - 3.4. ~~Manual activation is provided from a normally occupied location.~~
4. Manual fire alarm boxes shall not be required in Group E occupancies where all of the following apply:
  - 4.1. The building is equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
  - 4.2. The emergency voice/alarm communication system will activate on sprinkler water flow.
  - 4.3. Manual activation is provided from a normally occupied location.
5. Where an existing approved alarm system is in place, an emergency voice/alarm system is not required in any portion of an existing Group E building undergoing any one of the following repairs, alteration or addition:
  - 5.1 Alteration or repair to an existing building including, without limitation, alterations to rooms and systems, and/or corridor configurations, not exceeding 35 percent of the fire area of the building (or the fire area undergoing the alteration or repair if the building is comprised of two or more fire areas); or
  - 5.2 An addition to an existing building, not exceeding 35 percent of the fire area of the building (or the fire area to which the addition is made if the building is comprised of two or more fire areas).

**907.2.3.1 Sprinkler systems or detection.** When automatic sprinkler systems or smoke detectors are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to the building fire alarm system.

**907.2.6.1 Group I-1.** An automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in *corridors*, waiting areas open to *corridors* and *habitable spaces* other than *sleeping units* and kitchens. The system shall be activated in accordance with Section 907.54.

**Exceptions:**

1. For Group I-1, Condition 1 occupancies, smoke detection in *habitable spaces* is not required where the facility is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
2. Smoke detection is not required for exterior balconies.

**907.2.6.4 Group I-4 occupancies.** A manual fire alarm system that initiates the occupant notification signal utilizing an emergency voice/ alarm communication system meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 shall be installed in Group I-4 occupancies. When automatic sprinkler systems or smoke detectors are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to the building fire alarm system.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

1. A manual fire alarm system is not required in Group I-4 occupancies with an occupant load of 50 or less.
2. Emergency voice alarm communication systems meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 shall not be required in Group I-4 occupancies with occupant loads of 100 or less, provided that activation of the manual fire alarm system initiates an approved occupant notification signal in accordance with Section 907.5.

**907.5.2.1.2 Maximum sound pressure.** ~~The total~~ maximum sound pressure level ~~produced by combining the ambient sound pressure level with all~~ for audible notification appliances ~~operating shall be not exceed~~ 110 dBA at the minimum hearing distance from the audible appliance. For systems operating in public mode, the maximum sound pressure level shall not exceed 30 dBA over the average ambient sound level. Where the average ambient noise is greater than ~~405~~ 95 dBA, visible alarm notification appliances shall be provided in accordance with NFPA 72 and audible alarm notification appliances shall not be required.

**907.8.4.1 Testing/maintenance:** All inspection, testing, maintenance and programing not defined as "electrical construction trade" by chapter 19.28 RCW shall be completed by a NICET II or ESA/NTS Certified Fire Alarm Technician (CFAT) Level II Fire in fire alarms (effective July 1, 2018).

**907.11 NICET: National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies and ESA/NTS: Electronic Security Association/National Training School.**

**907.11.1 Scope.** This section shall apply to new and existing fire alarm systems.

**907.11.2 Design review.** All construction documents shall be reviewed by a NICET III, an ESA/NTS Certified Fire Alarm Designer (CFAD) Level III Fire in fire alarms, or a licensed professional engineer (PE) in Washington prior to being submitted for permitting. The reviewing professional shall submit a stamped, signed, and dated letter; or a verification method approved by the local authority having jurisdiction



indicating the system has been reviewed and meets or exceeds the design requirements of the state of Washington and the local jurisdiction (effective July 1, 2018).

**909.6.3 Pressurized stairways and elevator hoistways.** Where *stairways* or elevator hoistways are pressurized, such pressurization systems shall comply with Section 909 as smoke control systems, in addition to the requirements of Sections 909.20 and 909.21.

**909.21.12 Hoistway venting.** Hoistway venting need not be provided for pressurized elevator shafts.

**909.21.13 Machine rooms.** Elevator machine rooms shall be pressurized in accordance with this section unless separated from the hoistway shaft by construction in accordance with Section 707 of the *International Building Code*.

**913.2.1 Protection of fire pump rooms and access.** ~~Rooms where fire pumps are located shall be located in rooms that are separated from all other areas of the building by 2-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 or 2-hour horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711, or both in accordance with Section 913.2.1 of the *International Building Code*.~~ Fire pump rooms not directly accessible from the outside shall be accessible through an enclosed passageway from an interior exit stairway or exterior exit. The enclosed passageway shall have a *fire-resistance rating* not less than the *fire-resistance rating* of the fire pump room (see NFPA 20 Section 4.14.2.1.2).

## SECTION 915 CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION

**915.1 General.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in new buildings in accordance with Sections 915.1.1 through 915.6. Carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in existing buildings in accordance with ~~Section 1103.9~~ Chapter 11.

**915.1.1 Where required.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in Group ~~I-1, I-2, I-4~~ I and R occupancies and in classrooms in Group E occupancies in the locations specified in Section 915.2 where any of the conditions in Sections 915.1.2 through 915.1.6 exist.

### **EXCEPTIONS:**

1. R-2 occupancies, with the exception of R-2 college dormitories, are required to install carbon monoxide detectors without exception.

2. Sleeping units or dwelling units in I and R-1 occupancies and R-2 college dormitories, hotel, DOC prisons and work releases and assisted living facilities and residential treatment facilities licensed by the state of Washington, which do not themselves contain a fuel-burning appliance, a fuel-burning fireplace, or have an attached garage, need not be provided with carbon monoxide alarms provided that they comply with the exceptions of Section 915.1.4.

**915.1.2 Fuel-burning appliances and fuel-burning fireplaces.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in *dwelling units*, *sleeping units* and classrooms that contain a fuel-burning appliance or a fuel-burning fireplace.

**915.1.3 Fuel-burning forced-air furnaces.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in *dwelling units*, *sleeping units* and classrooms served by a fuel-burning, forced-air furnace.

**Exception:** Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms where a carbon monoxide detector is provided in the first room or area served by each main duct leaving the furnace, and the carbon monoxide alarm signals are automatically transmitted to an *approved* location.

**915.1.4 Fuel-burning appliances outside of dwelling units, sleeping units and classrooms.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms located in buildings that contain fuel-burning appliances or fuel-burning fireplaces.

**Exceptions:**

1. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms ~~without~~ where there are no communicating openings between the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and the *dwelling unit, sleeping unit* or classroom.
2. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms where a carbon monoxide detector is provided in one of the following locations:
  - 2.1. In an *approved* location between the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and the *dwelling unit, sleeping unit* or classroom.
  - 2.2. On the ceiling of the room containing the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace.

**915.1.5 Private garages.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms in buildings with attached private garages.

**Exceptions:**

1. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required ~~in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms~~ ~~without~~ where there are no communicating openings between the private garage and the *dwelling unit, sleeping unit* or classroom.
2. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in *dwelling units, sleeping units* and classrooms located more than one story above or below a private garage.
3. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required where the private garage connects to the building through an *open-ended corridor*.
4. Where a carbon monoxide ~~detector~~ detection is provided in an *approved* location between openings to a private garage and *dwelling units, sleeping units* or classrooms, carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in the dwelling units, sleeping units or classrooms.

**915.1.6 Exempt garages.** For determining compliance with Section 915.1.5, an open parking garage complying with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code* or an enclosed parking garage complying with Section 406.6 of the *International Building Code* shall not be considered a private garage.

**915.2 Locations.** Where required by Section 915.1.1, carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in the locations specified in Sections 915.2.1 through 915.2.3.

**915.2.1 Dwelling units.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in *dwelling units* outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms and on each level of the dwelling. Where a fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, carbon monoxide detection shall be installed within the bedroom.

**915.2.2 Sleeping units.** Carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in *sleeping units*.

**Exception:** Carbon monoxide detection shall be allowed to be installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the *sleeping unit* where the *sleeping unit* or its attached bathroom does not contain a fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and is not served by a forced-air furnace.

**915.2.3 Group E occupancies.** When required by Section 915.1 in new buildings, or by Chapter 11, Carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in classrooms in Group E occupancies. Carbon monoxide alarm signals shall be automatically transmitted to an on-site location that is staffed by school personnel.

**Exceptions:**

1. Carbon monoxide alarm signals shall not be required to be automatically transmitted to an onsite location that is staffed by school personnel in Group E occupancies with an *occupant load* of ~~30~~ 50 or less.
2. Carbon monoxide alarm signals shall not be required to be automatically transmitted to an on-site location that is staffed by school personnel in Group E occupancies where an exception contained in Section 915.1 applies, or in Group E occupancies where signals are transmitted to an off-site service monitored by a third party, such as a service that monitors fire protection systems in the building.

## **SECTION 918** **ALERTING SYSTEMS**

**918.1 General.** An approved alerting system shall be provided in buildings and structures as required in Chapter 4 and this section, unless other requirements are provided by another section of this code.

**EXCEPTION:** Approved alerting systems in existing buildings, structures or occupancies.

**918.2 Power source.** Alerting systems shall be provided with power supplies in accordance with Section 10.6 of NFPA 72 and circuit disconnecting means identified as "EMERGENCY ALERTING SYSTEM."

**EXCEPTION:** Systems which do not require electrical power to operate.

**918.3 Duration of operation.** The alerting system shall be capable of operating under nonalarm condition (quiescent load) for a minimum of 24 hours and then shall be capable of operating during an emergency condition for a period of 15 minutes at maximum connected load.

**918.4 Combination system.** Alerting system components and equipment shall be allowed to be used for other purposes.

**918.4.1 System priority.** The alerting system use shall take precedence over any other use.

**918.4.2 Fire alarm system.** Fire alarm systems sharing components and equipment with alerting systems must be in accordance with Section 23.8.4 of NFPA 72.

**918.4.2.1 Signal priority.** Recorded or live alert signals generated by an alerting system that shares components with a fire alarm system shall, when actuated, take priority over fire alarm messages and

signals.

**918.4.2.2 Temporary deactivation.** Should the fire alarm system be in the alarm mode when such an alerting system is actuated, it shall temporarily cause deactivation of all fire alarm-initiated audible messages or signals during the time period required to transmit the alert signal.

**918.4.2.3 Supervisory signal.** Deactivation of fire alarm audible and visual notification signals shall cause a supervisory signal for each notification zone affected in the fire alarm system.

**918.5 Audibility.** Audible characteristics of the alert signal shall be in accordance with Section 18.4.1 of NFPA 72 throughout the area served by the alerting system.

**EXCEPTION:** Areas served by approved visual or textual notification, where the visible notification appliances are not also used as a fire alarm signal, are not required to be provided with audibility complying with Section 916.6.

**918.6 Visibility.** Visible and textual notification appliances shall be permitted in addition to alert signal audibility.

**5. Briefly explain your proposed amendment, including the purpose, benefits and problems addressed.**  
These are existing WA State Amendments for Chapter 9 with updated numbering and formatting to indicate what was amended from the 2021 IFC. Correlation with the WA State Building Code amendments are also shown.

**6. Specify what criteria this proposal meets.** You may select more than one.

- ☐ The amendment is needed to address a critical life/safety need.
- ☒ The amendment clarifies the intent or application of the code.
- ☐ The amendment is needed to address a specific state policy or statute.
- ☒ The amendment is needed for consistency with state or federal regulations.
- ☐ The amendment is needed to address a unique character of the state.
- ☐ The amendment corrects errors and omissions.

**7. Is there an economic impact:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

Explain:

If there is an economic impact, use the tool below to estimate the costs and savings of the proposal on construction practices, users and/or the public, the enforcement community, and operation and maintenance. If preferred, you may submit an alternate cost benefit analysis.

Provide your best estimate of the construction cost (or cost savings) of your code change proposal?  
(See OFM Life Cycle Cost [Analysis tool](#) and [Instructions](#); use these [Inputs](#). **Webinars on the tool can be found [Here](#) and [Here](#)**)

\$[Click here to enter text.](#)/square foot (For residential projects, also provide \$[Click here to enter text.](#)/dwelling unit)

Show calculations here, and list sources for costs/savings, or attach backup data pages

List any code enforcement time for additional plan review or inspections that your proposal will require, in hours per permit application:

Please send your completed proposal to: [sbcc@des.wa.gov](mailto:sbcc@des.wa.gov)

All questions must be answered to be considered complete. Incomplete proposals will not be accepted.